

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

March 2013 – Week 4

Air Date: March 24 – March 30 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: ANGEL OF GOLIAD

MARCH 1836 AND AN ANGEL APPEARS IN GOLIAD.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

MARCH 26, 1836. GOLIAD. AFTER A BRIEF BATTLE, COL. JAMES FANNIN SURRENDERS TO MEXICAN TROOPS AND OVER 400 TEXANS BECOME PRISONERS. USUALLY, THE RULES OF WAR DICTATE THAT PRISONERS ARE PAROLED. SINGING SONGS AND LAUGHING, THE MEN PREPARE TO GO HOME.

THE NEXT DAY, PALM SUNDAY, THEY ARE MARCHED INTO THE WOODS... AND SHOT. SANTA ANNA HAD ORDERED THEIR EXECUTION AS REBELS. OVER 300 WERE KILLED.

BUT ABOUT TWENTY MEN WERE SPARED BY THE INTERVENTION OF A WOMAN NAMED FRANCITA ALAVEZ. AN OFFICER'S MISTRESS, ALAVEZ HAD TAKEN PITY ON THE TEXANS AND BEGGED FOR THEIR LIFE. SHE BECAME KNOWN AS THE ANGEL OF GOLIAD.

FRANCITA THE ANGEL APPEARED AT GOLIAD 177 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

George O. Coalson, "ALAVEZ, FRANCITA," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fal53>), accessed March 14, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Harbert Davenport and Craig H. Roell, "GOLIAD MASSACRE," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/qeg02>), accessed March 14, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

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